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09/852,184	05/09/2001	Glenn Petkovsek	USA-P-00-001	4886

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EXAMINER

HENDERSON, MARK T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3722

DATE MAILED: 06/03/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/852,184

Applicant(s)

PETKOVSEK, GLENN

Examiner

Mark T Henderson

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 March 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

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DETAILED ACTION

Faxing of Responses to Office Actions

In order to reduce pendency and avoid potential delays, TC 3700 is encouraging FAXing of responses to Office Actions directly into the Group at (703)872-9302 (Official) and (703)872-9303 (for After Finals). This practice may be used for filing papers which require a fee by applicants who authorize charges to a PTO deposit account. Please identify the examiner and art unit at the top of your cover sheet. Papers submitted via FAX into TC 3700 will be promptly forwarded to the examiner.

1. Claim 1 has been amended for further examination.

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Double Patenting

The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. See *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and, *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent is shown to be commonly owned with this application. See 37 CFR 1.130(b).

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

2. Claims 1-7 are finally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1 and 4 of U.S. Patent No. 6,089,613 (Petkovsek) in view of PAP US 2002/0103697 (Lockhart et al).

Petkovsek discloses in Claims 1 and 4, a form having: a first layer made up of a plurality of parts with a front side and a backside, wherein the front side receives indicia, and the backside

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comprises removable adhesive; and a second layer having a front side with a non-adhesive layer; wherein one of the plurality of parts receives special service mail information, sender information, and recipient information; a post card section.

However, Petkovsek does not disclose; wherein a first part of the plurality of parts receives an electronically imaged postage accessed over a global computer network necessary to effect delivery of the mailpiece; and a second part receives a second type of electronically imaged postage accessed over a global computer network necessary to effect delivery of the mailpiece; wherein the first part is sized to correspond to a first type of electronically-imaged postage; and wherein the second part is sized to correspond to a second type of electronically-imaged postage.

Lockhart discloses in Fig. 8, a form comprising a electronically imaged postage accessed over a global network.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Petkovsek's form to include electronically imaged indicia as taught by Lockhart et al for the purpose of allowing a user to cost-effectively create and distribute individualized surface mailings using an easy to use computer interface available over the Internet.

In regards to **Claim 1**, wherein the first and second part are sized to correspond to a first and second type of electronically imaged postage; and wherein the electronically image information is necessary to effect the delivery of the mailpiece, and is accessible by a first and second provider, a recitation of the intended use of the claimed invention must result in a structural difference between the claimed invention and the prior art in order to patentably

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distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art. If the prior art structure is capable of performing the intended use, then it meets the claim. In a claim drawn to a process of making, the intended use must result in a manipulative difference as compared to the prior art. Therefore, the first and second part is sized to correspond to electronically imaged postage, since applicant has not set forth the dimensional parameters of the electronically imaged postage; and further wherein the electronically imaged information is capable of effecting the delivery of the mailpiece. Furthermore, the electronically imaged postage can be accessible by a first and second provider.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1 and 2 are finally rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Crandall et al (5,782,494) in view of Lockhart et al.

Crandall et al discloses a form comprising: a first layer (21) having a front side (26) and a back side (22) wherein the front side has a plurality of parts (various sections divided by die-cut)

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which receive indicia; a second layer (25) having a front side (A) with a non-adhesive layer (Col. 5, lines 4-17), wherein the plurality of parts are removably secured (by adhesive 27).

However, Crandall et al does not disclose: wherein the plurality of parts receive electronically imaged postage accessed over a global network wherein the electronically image information is necessary to effect the delivery of the mailpiece; and wherein the first part is sized to correspond to a first type of electronically-imaged postage; and wherein the second part is sized to correspond to a second type of electronically-imaged postage.

Lockhart discloses in Fig. 8, a form comprising a electronically imaged postage accessed over a global network, wherein the image postage can be sized and the form can be printed.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Crandall et al's form to include electronically imaged indicia as taught by Lockhart et al for the purpose of allowing a user to cost-effectively create and distribute individualized surface mailings using an easy to use computer interface available over the Internet.

In regards to **Claim 1**, wherein the first and second part are sized to correspond to a first and second type of electronically imaged postage; and wherein the electronically image information is necessary to effect the delivery of the mailpiece, and is accessible by a first and second provider, a recitation of the intended use of the claimed invention must result in a structural difference between the claimed invention and the prior art in order to patentably distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art. If the prior art structure is capable of performing the intended use, then it meets the claim. In a claim drawn to a process of making, the

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intended use must result in a manipulative difference as compared to the prior art. Therefore, the first and second part is sized to correspond to electronically imaged postage, since applicant has not set forth the dimensional parameters of the electronically imaged postage; and further wherein the electronically imaged information is capable of effecting the delivery of the mailpiece. Furthermore, the electronically imaged postage can be accessible by a first and second provider.

4. Claims 3-7, as best understood, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Crandall in view of Petkovsek (6,241,844).

Crandall et al discloses a form comprising all the elements as claimed in Claim 1, and as set forth above. However, Crandall et al does not disclose: wherein one of the plurality of parts receives: a section which receives special mailing service information, sender information and recipient information; and a postcard subsection.

Petkovsek discloses in Fig. 1, a form comprising a plurality of parts or sections which can receive special service information, sender information, and recipient information (Col. 5, lines 1-16), and a postcard subsection (13).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Crandall et al's form to include mailing information as taught by Petkovsek for the purpose of tracking an article upon which the form parts are applied.

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Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments filed on March 18, 2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In regards to applicant's arguments that neither the Petkovsek or Lockhart et al taken singly or in combination, "teach or suggest a form for delivery of a mailpiece by a special service having a first part which is sized to correspond to a first type of electronically-imaged postage accessed over a global computer network and having a second part which is sized to correspond to a second type of electronically-imaged postage accessed over a global computer network", the examiner submits that obviousness can only be established by combining or modifying the teachings of the prior art to produce the claimed invention where there is some teaching, suggestion, or motivation to do so found either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art. See *In re Fine*, 837 F.2d 1071, 5 USPQ2d 1596 (Fed. Cir. 1988) and *In re Jones*, 958 F.2d 347, 21 USPQ2d 1941 (Fed. Cir. 1992). In this case, Petkovsek discloses a form having: a first layer made up of a plurality of parts with a front side and a backside, wherein the front side receives imaged indicia, and the backside comprises removable adhesive; and a second layer having a front side with a non-adhesive layer; wherein one of the plurality of parts receives special service mail information, sender information, and recipient information; a post card section. However, Petkovsek does not disclose; wherein a first part of the plurality of parts receives an electronically imaged postage accessed over a global computer

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network necessary to effect delivery of the mailpiece; and a second part receives a second type of electronically imaged postage accessed over a global computer network necessary to effect delivery of the mailpiece; wherein the first part is sized to correspond to a first type of electronically-imaged postage; and wherein the second part is sized to correspond to a second type of electronically-imaged postage.

Lockhart discloses in Fig. 8, a form comprising a electronically imaged postage (1110) accessed over a global network; wherein the image can be sized and the form can printed (Page 8, Par. 110 and 112).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Petkovsek's form to include electronically imaged indicia as taught by Lockhart et al for the purpose of allowing a user to cost-effectively create and distribute individualized surface mailings using an easy to use computer interface available over the Internet.

In regards to **Claim 1**, wherein the first and second part are sized to correspond to a first and second type of electronically imaged postage; and wherein the electronically image information is necessary to effect the delivery of the mailpiece, and is accessible by a first and second provider, a recitation of the intended use of the claimed invention must result in a structural difference between the claimed invention and the prior art in order to patentably distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art. If the prior art structure is capable of performing the intended use, then it meets the claim. Therefore, the first and second part is sized to correspond to electronically imaged postage, since applicant has not set forth the dimensional

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parameters of the electronically imaged postage; and further wherein the electronically imaged information is capable of effecting the delivery of the mailpiece. Furthermore, the electronically imaged postage can be accessible by a first and second provider.

In regards to applicant's argument that the Crandell et al does not disclose "a plurality of parts which receive electronically-imaged postage accessed over a global computer network wherein the electronically-imaged information is necessary to effect the delivery of the mailpiece", the examiner submits that in this case, Crandell et al discloses a form comprising: a first layer having a front side and a back side, wherein the front side has a plurality of parts (various sections divided by die-cut) which receive imaged indicia; and a second layer having a front side with a non-adhesive layer, wherein the plurality of parts are removably secured.

However, Crandall et al does not disclose: wherein the plurality of parts receive electronically imaged postage accessed over a global network wherein the electronically image information is necessary to effect the delivery of the mailpiece; and wherein the first part is sized to correspond to a first type of electronically-imaged postage; and wherein the second part is sized to correspond to a second type of electronically-imaged postage. The Lockhart et al reference is now used to disclose a form comprising a electronically imaged postage accessed over a global network, wherein the image postage can be sized and the form can be printed.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Crandall et al's form to include electronically imaged indicia as

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taught by Lockhart et al for the purpose of allowing a user to cost-effectively create and distribute individualized surface mailings using an easy to use computer interface available over the Internet.

In regards to **Claim 1**, wherein the first and second part are sized to correspond to a first and second type of electronically imaged postage; and wherein the electronically image information is necessary to effect the delivery of the mailpiece, and is accessible by a first and second provider, a recitation of the intended use of the claimed invention must result in a structural difference between the claimed invention and the prior art in order to patentably distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art. If the prior art structure is capable of performing the intended use, then it meets the claim. Therefore, the first and second part is sized to correspond to electronically imaged postage, since applicant has not set forth the dimensional parameters of the electronically imaged postage; and further wherein the electronically imaged information is capable of effecting the delivery of the mailpiece. Furthermore, the electronically imaged postage can be accessible by a first and second provider.

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Conclusion

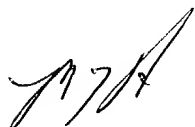
6. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

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Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mark T. Henderson whose telephone number is (703)305-0189. The examiner can be reached on Monday - Friday from 7:30 AM to 3:45 PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner supervisor, A. L. Wellington, can be reached on (703) 308-2159. The fax number for TC 3700 is (703)-872-9302. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the TC 3700 receptionist whose telephone number is (703)308-1148.



MTH

May 21, 2004



A. L. WELLINGTON
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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